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2009 H1N1 VACCINE UPDATES

JOURNAL ARTICLES

Three studies in the Jan 2 issue of *The Lancet* confirm the safety and efficacy of 2009 H1N1 vaccine. The studies consist of large trials in three countries—the United States, Hungary, and China.

- [Immune response after a single vaccination against 2009 influenza A H1N1 in USA: a preliminary report of two randomised controlled phase 2 trials](#)
- [Safety and immunogenicity of a 2009 pandemic influenza A H1N1 vaccine when administered alone or simultaneously with the seasonal influenza vaccine for the 2009–10 influenza season: a multicentre, randomised controlled trial](#)
- [Safety and immunogenicity of 2009 pandemic influenza A H1N1 vaccines in China: a multicentre, double-blind, randomised, placebo-controlled trial](#)

Two editorials were also published in *The Lancet*:

- [Large trials confirm immunogenicity of H1N1 vaccines](#)
- [Defining the safety profile of pandemic influenza vaccines](#)

Additionally, CIDRAP provides a summary article [here](#).

VACCINE DEVELOPMENT

In an effort to develop new strategies to more quickly produce pandemic vaccine, [Austrian researchers](#) have used an insect cell technique to create a recombinant virus-like particle H1N1 vaccine for use in mouse studies.

MANDATORY FLU VACCINATION

A [study published](#) in the January issue of the *Archives of Pediatrics & Adolescent Medicine* indicates that mandatory flu vaccines for hospital employees are supported by most health care personnel; 70% of employees agreed that influenza vaccination should be mandatory for health care personnel, and 94% of those who expressed that belief had taken the shot themselves. Even among those who opposed mandatory flu shots, 56% were immunized. The study design was a self-administered, Web-based questionnaire at a large, tertiary children's hospital; the sample size was 585 health care workers, including physicians, nurses, and all other hospital employees.

2009 H1N1 VACCINE SAFETY

On January 4, CDC posted the following guidance document: [Fact Sheet: Safety of Thimerosal in Vaccines Against 2009 H1N1 Flu](#)

EPIDEMIOLOGY OF 2009 H1N1

JOURNAL ARTICLES

The December 31 edition of *The New England Journal of Medicine* included the following article: "[Household Transmission of 2009 Pandemic Influenza A \(H1N1\) Virus in the United States.](#)"

INTERNATIONAL NEWS - 2009 H1N1

RECENT NEWS

[China records 659 swine flu deaths in 2009](#)

[France defends flu vaccine surplus](#)

[North Korea Seen Battling Wave of Flu](#)

[Turkish Health Ministry reduces swine flu vaccine purchase](#)

[WHO-led H1N1 vaccine redistribution may be scaled back as countries reassess need](#)

CLINICAL UPDATES - 2009 H1N1

JOURNAL ARTICLES

In CDC's January 8 [MMWR](#) New York City researchers reviewed the medical charts of the first 99 patients with laboratory confirmed H1N1 admitted to any NYC hospital to characterize the demographics of the first hospitalized patients, identify associated underlying medical conditions, describe the course and severity of disease, and examine the use of antiviral medications.

In the December 31 online journal [Public Library of Science ONE](#), researchers look at the association between severe H1N1 cases and coinfection with *Streptococcus pneumoniae*.

The journal *Pediatric Critical Care Medicine* recently published: "[The critically ill child with novel H1N1 influenza A: A case series.](#)"

COMMUNITY MITIGATION - 2009 H1N1

In CDC's January 8 [MMWR](#) researchers from the Hawaii Department of Health describe their investigation designed to determine the extent of transmission at the school and among household contacts.

RECENT NEWS

[Public health officials share school-based vaccination strategies](#)

FLU RESOURCES

The CDC is releasing new PSAs to promote [National Influenza Vaccination Week](#) (NIVW), January 10th-16th, 2010. The PSAs feature :30 and :60 variations appropriate for the general public, as well as special ethnic and minority populations. "I never get the flu" directly addresses common excuses that may be barriers for a variety of groups who should seek H1N1 influenza vaccination. Preview the spot [online](#).

The Immunization Action Coalition (IAC) January 2010 special edition of Vaccinate Adults is now [online](#) and available. Comprising both seasonal and H1N1 influenza information, this special issue focuses on vaccine recommendations and patient education.

IAC also recently posted a [patient handout](#) that lists emergency warning signs for people with seasonal or H1N1 influenza and a piece that summarizes [influenza vaccine products](#) for the current season.

Upcoming Meetings & Events:

The next NCIRD live Net Conference will cover the 2010 U.S. immunization schedules for children and adults from noon to 1PM ET on January 28. William Atkinson, MD, MPH, will speak on "What's New on the Child and Adolescent Immunization Schedules," and Caro Friedman, DO, will address "What's New on the Adult Immunization Schedule." Dr. Andrew Kroger will moderate. Participation in the Q&A section of the program is available by phone and Internet. This is a limited-entry event. [Registration](#) will close on January 26 or when the course is full.

[2010 National Influenza Vaccine Summit](#) tentatively set for May 17-20, 2010 in Phoenix, Arizona

FLU WEBSITES

MDCH: www.michigan.gov/flu

CDC: www.cdc.gov/flu

HHS: www.flu.gov

WHO:

<http://www.who.int/csr/disease/swineflu/en/index.html>

OTHER IMMUNIZATION NEWS!

Disparities in vaccine coverage among socioeconomic groups are shrinking as more U.S. children receive full immunization against common childhood illnesses, according to a new study from the CDC. The researchers examined the immunization data of 185,516 children, ages 19 to 35 months, and looked at immunization trends from 2000 to 2008. In 2000, children living below the poverty line were significantly less likely to have received all of the recommended vaccines, as were those whose mothers had not finished high school, were not married, or were younger than 30. Children who received their vaccines from a public provider were less likely to be covered than those with a private provider. These disparities remained throughout the study period, but they became statistically insignificant by 2008. Although the researchers noted that there is room for improvement, they attributed some of the shrinking disparity to the Vaccines for Children program. The findings are published in the [American Journal of Preventive Medicine](#). Read a related news article [here](#).

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